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INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3886

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WHITE HOUSE FOR NSC/NESA (RAMCHAN); STATE FOR NEA/MAG (HARRIS)

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/19/2017

TAGS: PREL OPDC TS

SUBJECT: TUNISIA: LETTER FROM PRESIDENT BUSH TO PRESIDENT

BEN ALI DELIVERED

REF: A. 141751Z SEP 07

¶B. HARRIS-COOPER EMAIL OF 9/18/2007

Classified By: Ambassador Robert F. Godec for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

- 11. (SBU) In a September 19 meeting with Minister of State and Presidential Advisor Ben Dhia on September 19, the Ambassador delivered the text of Ref A letter from President Bush to President Ben Ali. He also provided a copy of Ref B official French translation. Ben Dhia expressed appreciation for the letter and seemed pleased with the contents.
- 12. (C) BIO NOTE: Ben Dhia was thankful for the French translation for his own use, but he noted that President Ben Ali is able to understand written English quite well. He suggested that Ben Ali would probably read the English version, relying on his close advisor and Director General of the Tunisian External Communication Agency Oussama Romdhani for any specific translation needs.